

Appl. No. 10/784,448
Amdt. dated July 8, 2005
Reply to Office Action of April 8, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9 as follows:

1. (currently amended) A checkout device comprising:
a bar code reader including a housing having an aperture for emitting scanning light beams;
a security system in the housing and adjacent the aperture for deactivating security labels on scanned items; and
an optical element in the bar code reader for shifting the scanning light beams to an effective location above the aperture, the optical element being constructed and disposed so as to refract the scanning light beams reflected from pattern mirrors in the bar code reader such that the scanning light beams trace out a scan pattern displaced from the scan pattern that would be traced out by the scanning light beams in the absence of the optical element.
2. (original) The device of claim 1, wherein the optical element comprises a glass block.
3. (currently amended) A checkout device comprising:
a bar code reader including a plurality of pattern mirrors for producing a scan pattern of scanning light beams and a housing having an aperture for emitting the scanning light beams;

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a security system above the pattern mirrors and adjacent the aperture for deactivating security labels on scanned items; and

an optical element in the path of the scanning light beams for shifting the scan pattern to an effective location above the aperture, the optical element being constructed and disposed so as to refract the scanning light beams reflected from the pattern mirrors in the bar code reader such that the scanning light beams trace out a scan pattern displaced from the scan pattern that would be traced out by the scanning light beams in the absence of the optical element.

4. (original) The device of claim 3, wherein the optical element comprises a glass block.

5. (currently amended) A checkout device comprising:
a bar code reader including a plurality of pattern mirrors for producing a scan pattern of scanning light beams and a housing having an aperture for emitting the scanning light beams;
a security system above the pattern mirrors and adjacent the aperture for deactivating security labels on scanned items;

wherein the pattern mirrors are designed to be placed in an original position located at a first distance away from the aperture and produce a first pattern, but are have instead been relocated to be located at a second distance away from the aperture in order to accommodate installation of the security system in the housing, the relocation of the pattern mirrors causing them to produce a second pattern displaced from the scan pattern that would be produced if the pattern mirrors were deployed in their original position and produce a second pattern; and

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an optical element in the path of the scanning light beams for shifting the second pattern to produce a third pattern, the optical element being constructed and disposed so as to refract the scanning light beams reflected from the pattern mirrors in the bar code reader such that the scanning light beams trace out a scan pattern displaced from the scan pattern that would be traced out by the scanning light beams in the absence of the optical element, the displacement being such that the scan pattern that is traced out is in substantially the same position as a scan pattern that would be produced with the pattern mirrors in their original position and in the absence of the optical element;

wherein the third pattern is about substantially as effective as the first pattern.

6. (original) The device of claim 5, wherein the optical element comprises a glass block.

7. (currently amended) A checkout device comprising:

a housing;

a bar code reader in the housing including pattern mirrors for producing a scan pattern of scanning light beams;

a weigh plate above the housing, including an aperture for emitting the scanning light beams;

an optical element in the path of the scanning light beams for shifting the scanning light beams, the optical element being constructed and disposed to refract the scanning light beams reflected from the pattern mirrors in the bar code reader such that the scanning light beams trace

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out a scan pattern displaced from the scan pattern that would be traced out by the scanning light beams in the absence of the optical element; and.

a security system beneath the weigh plate and adjacent the optical element in a location for facilitating scanning of items and deactivation of security labels on the items during a single swipe of the items over the weigh plate.

8. (original) The device of claim 7, wherein the optical element comprises a glass block.

9. A transaction method comprising the steps of:

producing a laser beam;

directing the laser beam at a plurality of pattern mirrors for generating scanning light beams;

refracting the scanning light beams such that the scanning light beams trace out a scan pattern displaced from the scan pattern that would be traced out by the scanning light beams in the absence of the refraction, refraction being performed so as to shifting shift the scanning light beams to an effective location above the aperture for reading a bar code label on an item;

shifting light reflected from the item as the item passes over the aperture during a scanning motion;

collecting the light reflected from the item by the pattern mirrors;

decoding the bar code label from the light reflected from the item; and

deactivating a security label on the item during the scanning motion.